Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of November 11, 2002 to November 15, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	September			New house prices in Canada increased slightly in September, up 0.2% from August, and 4.2% above the level of September 2001. Increases were reported in 14 of 21 regions surveyed, with only 2 regions experiencing price declines and 5 regions showing no change from the previous month. The largest monthly increases were reported in Winnipeg and St. John's (up 1.0% each), while declines were reported in St. Catherines-Niagara (-0.8%) and Kitchener-Waterloo (-0.3%). On an annual basis, Ottawa-Gatineau experienced the largest increase (8.3%), followed by Edmonton (8.2%), Montreal (6.2%), and Calgary (5.5%).
Canada	111.2	0.2%	4.2%	
Edmonton	124.0	0.4%	8.2%	
Calgary	144.0	0.2%	5.5%	
Urban Housing Starts (Thousands)	October			Urban housing starts reached 220,400 in October, up 10.4% from September. British Columbia had the largest increase (20.2%), followed by New Brunswick (19.4%) and Ontario (14.6%). Decreases occurred in three provinces, with Saskatchewan (-30.4%) and Manitoba (-25.4%) showing the largest month-over-month declines. Alberta's 42,300 housing starts represented a 12.8% increase from September, and a 29.4% increase from October 2001.
Alberta	42,300	12.8%	29.4%	
Canada	220,400	10.4%	27.5%	
New Motor Vehicle Sales	September			New motor vehicle sales in Canada declined slightly in September (-0.4%). Sales of 145,462 new vehicles were reported, remaining at near-record levels. Passenger car sales were virtually unchanged from August, while truck sales fell by 0.9%. Only Newfoundland (+1.1%), Quebec (+1.0%) and P.E.I. (+0.7%) posted gains. Manitoba experienced the sharpest drop (-8.4%), while declines of less than 3 percent were seen in the remaining provinces. Alberta's sales were virtually unchanged (down less than 0.01%)
Alberta	17,266	-0.0%	12.1%	
Canada	145,462	-0.4%	13.6%	